

BANBURY CELEBRATES THE CORONATION OF QUEEN VICTORIA

From 'The History of Banbury' by Alfred Beesley, p.550

On the day of Her Majesty's coronation, the 28th June 1838, a procession of the Trades &c. was held in commemoration of the event. At two o'clock in the afternoon a great dinner was provided, and served in the Horse Fair, for all the working classes and poor who chose to partake of it. The first course served consisted of 1700lb of plumpudding; the next was 180 dishes of rumps, ribs, loins, rounds, rands, and briskets of beef, weighing in all 3050lb; with 1596lb of bread and forty-five kilderkins of ale. The tables were forty-five in number, eighty seats being appropriated to each. To each table were appointed a superintendant, four carvers (chiefly tradesmen of the town), and four or more waiters (chiefly youths from the different shops). The guests and waiters amounted to about 4000 persons, exclusive of thousands of spectators. After dinner, old English sports were practised. Cake and tea were served to 865 Sunday-School children, and dancing terminated the proceedings. The day passed without the slightest disorder.

The expenses incurred by the Committee of Management were as follows:-

3050lb Beef	78	2	9
1700lb Pudding	42	10	0
1596lb Bread	12	9	4
612 Gallons of Ale	44	2	0
Mustard (Salt gratis)	0	10	0
Tables, use of, and fixing	20	0	0
Broken Ware	1	18	2
Two bands, and Ale for them	10	16	0
Printing	9	4	7
Hall-keepers (on account of Committee meetings,) and Crier	3	1	6
	<u>£222</u>	13	4

Cash subscribed more than required £2.9s.8d. The expenses of the procession and sports were provided for by a junior committee, who made a collection, and had the management of those parts. The cake and tea for the children were provided by another committee, from the proceeds of a third subscription.